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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,158	08/05/2003	Kouichi Chikumoto	04995/114001	6330

7590

07/15/2005

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EXAMINER

BLOUIN, MARK S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2653

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/634,158	CHIKUMOTO, KOUICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark Blouin	2653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Examiner's Drawing</u> . |

Art Unit: 2653

Detailed Action

Response to Amendment

- The response filed on June 6, 2005 was applied to the following effect: Applicant's arguments are addressed below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 7-19820.
3. Regarding Claims 1-3, JP 7-19820 shows (Figs. 4,7, and 8), a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus comprising a lock releasing arm (12) having a claw (12a) for depressing a lock releasing switch (9) on a front cover of a cassette, the claw depressing the lock releasing switch through a hole (See Examiner's Drawing) formed in the cassette, and a projection (3) to be contact with a front face of the cassette when the cassette is inserted into the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus, wherein when the cassette is brought into contact with the projection, the lock releasing arm (12) depresses the lock releasing switch (9), and a side wall on a cassette inserting direction side of the claw comes into contact with a side wall on the cassette inserting direction side of the hole to position the cassette until the cassette is automatically loaded.

Art Unit: 2653

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed June 6, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts on Page 3:

"JP fails to teach or suggest a "projection" as recited in the claims. Specifically, when the front of the cassette comes into contact with the projection, a series of mechanical events are triggered such that the claw comes into contact with the hole in the cassette. Thus, the projection, as recited in the claims, is used to trigger the action of the claw coming into contact with the hole in the cassette. In contrast, the projection identified by the Examiner in Figure 4 of JP (see Office Action mailed February 4, 2005, Examiner's Drawings) is not connected to the claw (12a) in a manner that would allow it to trigger the claw (12a) to come into contact with the hole in the cassette. Rather, the projection identified by the Examiner is isolated from the claw (12a). Thus, JP does not teach or suggest a projection as recited in the claims."

The Examiner maintains that projection (3) is connected to the claw (12a) in a manner that would allow it to trigger the claw (12a) to come into contact with the hole in the cassette as translated in JP7-19820, paragraph [0011]. Upon ***insertion*** (inserting direction) of the cassette the energizing force is detected by protrusion (3) and in conjunction with a spring (4) rotates the claw to come into contact with a hole in the front face of the cassette. Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-9 is upheld.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period


Art Unit: 2653


will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Blouin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7583. The examiner can normally be reached M-F, 6:00 am – 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached at (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular and After Final communications.

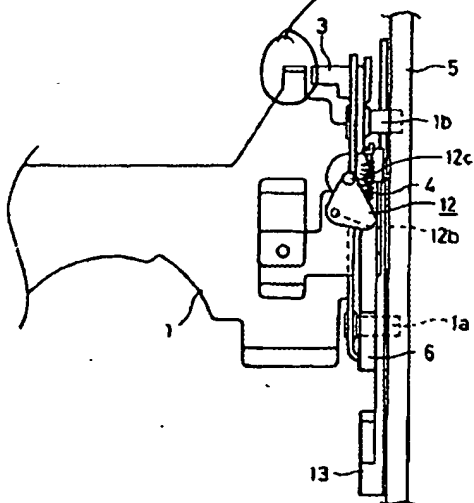
Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


Mark Blouin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2653
June 21, 2005

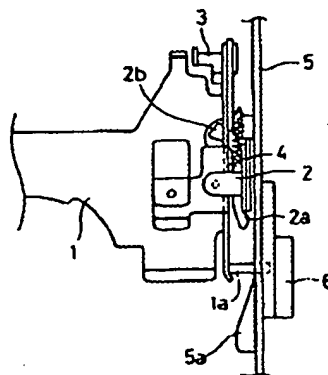
A. J. HEINZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP ~~2503~~ A. U. 2653


【図4】

PROJECTION

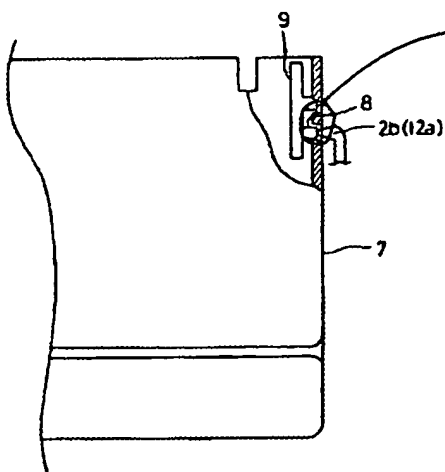


【図7】



【図8】

HOLE FORMED IN CASSETTE



EXAMINER'S DRAWING